

CLAIMS

1. A multilayer capacitor comprising:

a main body that is a rectangular prism having two main surfaces opposed to each other and four side faces connecting the main surfaces to each other, that has a layered structure, and that includes a plurality of dielectric layers that extends in the direction in which the main surfaces extend and that is layered on top of one another and at least one pair of first and second internal electrodes that are provided along certain boundary faces between the dielectric layers and that are opposed to each other so as to form electrostatic capacitance; and

first and second external terminal electrodes formed on an external surface of the main body so as to be electrically connected to the first and second internal electrodes, respectively,

wherein each of the first and second internal electrodes has a capacitance generating portion functioning so as to form the electrostatic capacitance, a terminal connecting portion connected to the external terminal electrode, and an extended portion connecting the capacitance generating portion to the terminal connecting portion, and

wherein the extended portion of at least one of the internal electrodes is curved in the direction of its thickness.

2. The multilayer capacitor according to Claim 1, further comprising a dummy electrode formed so as to be layered on the terminal connecting portion of the internal electrode.

3. The multilayer capacitor according to Claim 1, wherein the extended portion curved in the direction of its thickness is narrower than the capacitance generating portion and the terminal connecting

portion.

4. The multilayer capacitor according to Claim 1, wherein the extended portion curved in the direction of its thickness is thinner than the capacitance generating portion and the terminal connecting portion.

5. The multilayer capacitor according to Claim 1, wherein at least one pair of the internal electrodes is provided near the main surface of the main body, opposing a mounting surface.

6. The multilayer capacitor according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second external terminal electrodes are alternately arranged along a certain side face of the main body.

7. A method of manufacturing a multilayer capacitor including:

a main body that is a rectangular prism having two main surfaces opposed to each other and four side faces connecting the main surfaces to each other, that has a layered structure, and that includes a plurality of dielectric layers that extends in the direction in which the main surfaces extend and that is layered on top of one another and at least one pair of first and second internal electrodes that are provided along certain boundary faces between the dielectric layers and that are opposed to each other so as to form electrostatic capacitance; and

first and second external terminal electrodes formed on an external surface of the main body so as to be electrically connected to the first and second internal electrodes, respectively,

wherein each of the first and second internal electrodes has a capacitance generating portion functioning so as to form the electrostatic capacitance, a terminal connecting portion connected to

the external terminal electrode, and an extended portion connecting the capacitance generating portion to the terminal connecting portion, and

wherein the extended portion of at least one of the internal electrodes is curved in the direction of its thickness, the method comprising steps of:

preparing a plurality of ceramic green sheets, which serves as the dielectric layers;

forming the internal electrode on the ceramic green sheets;

forming a dummy electrode on the ceramic green sheet so as to be overlapped on the terminal connecting portion of the internal electrode;

layering and pressing the plurality of ceramic green sheets in order to yield the main body in a raw state; and

firing the main body in the raw state,

wherein the step of layering and pressing the ceramic green sheets includes a step of pressing part of the ceramic green sheets provided between the capacitance generating portions of the internal electrodes and between the terminal connecting portion and the dummy electrode so as to flex toward the extended portion of the internal electrode to curve the extended portion in the direction of its thickness.

8. The method of manufacturing the multilayer capacitor, according to Claim 7,

wherein the step of forming the dummy electrode includes a step of forming the dummy electrode on a ceramic green sheet having no internal electrode formed thereon, and

wherein the step of layering and pressing the ceramic green sheets includes a step of layering and preliminarily pressing the ceramic green sheet having the dummy electrode formed thereon but having no internal electrode formed thereon to curve the inner edges of the

dummy electrode in the layering direction and a step of layering and preliminarily pressing the ceramic green sheet having the internal electrode formed thereon to curve the extended portion in the direction of its thickness along the curvature of the inner edge of the dummy electrode.

9. The method of manufacturing the multilayer capacitor, according to Claim 8, wherein the step of forming the dummy electrode further includes a step of forming the dummy electrode on the ceramic green sheet having the internal electrode formed thereon.